

THE JOURNAL OF RAPTOR RESEARCH

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.

VOL. 39

SEPTEMBER 2005

No. 3

J Raptor Res. 39(3):189

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PREFACE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT OF NORTHERN GOSHAWKS

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For almost 20 years, the Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) has been the focus of considerable research effort, management and conservation planning, and litigation. This has been driven by conflict between conservation concerns and forest management practices. Due to increasing concern for the species, the symposium "The Biology and Management of Northern Goshawks," was held in conjunction with the Cooper Ornithological Society in 1993, with the goal of assembling the most current information available at that time.

Since that 1993 symposia, 10 years had passed during which a considerable amount of research had been conducted on goshawks, but a venue for sharing the information among researchers had not been made available. To provide an opportunity for researchers and managers to exchange information with which to assess the current state of knowledge on Northern Goshawks, a coordinating committee consisting of Steve DeStefano, Patricia Kennedy, Michael Goldstein, John Keane, and myself organized the "International Symposium on the Ecology and Management of Northern Goshawks." This symposium was held 4–5 September 2003, in conjunction with the 2003 Raptor Research Foundation Annual Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. The symposium was well attended, with 32 papers presented. Topics included status reports; improvements in survey and monitoring methodology; information on population demography, food habits, habitat assessment, and winter ecology; and the use of genetic approaches to goshawk studies.

Given the obvious interest in goshawk ecology

and management, as indicated by attendance and number of papers presented at the symposium, there was a need to make this information more broadly available. We have attempted to do so with this issue of *The Journal of Raptor Research*, which includes peer-reviewed versions of some of the papers presented at the 2003 symposia. The lead paper is authored by a committee put together jointly by The Raptor Research Foundation and The Wildlife Society. This committee was charged with reviewing the status of Northern Goshawks in the western United States. This review provides a context for the rest of this issue in presenting an overview of the state of knowledge leading up to the symposium. Manuscripts following the lead paper are grouped topologically (i.e., Biology, Techniques, and Conservation).

All manuscripts in this issue went through the same peer-review process as required for regular issues of the *Journal*. For this issue, I served as a Coordinating Editor, with the symposia committee members serving as Associate Editors. I, the Associate Editors, and Jim Bednarz (Editor-in-Chief), would like to thank all of the individuals that served as peer-referees for the manuscripts in this issue. We would also like to acknowledge the U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Research Units, the North American Falconer's Association, and the U.S. Forest Service Alaska Region and the Chugach National Forest, for providing support for publication of this issue of the *Journal*.

Finally, this issue of *The Journal of Raptor Research* is dedicated to the memory of Suzanne Joy, a friend and colleague to many of us working with goshawks. Please see the memoriam provided by Richard Reynolds on the following page.

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